
15. (Twice Amended) A reciprocating saw comprising a housing, a motor contained in said housing and a reciprocating shaft driven by said motor, said shaft including a blade mount, said blade mount further comprising:

a first wall having a recess formed therein;

4B3 a pin disposed through said first wall at a location of said recess and having a lug formed on one end thereof, said lug having a shape corresponding to that of said recess, said pin biased with said lug received in said recess with respect to said first wall, said pin movable against said bias to move said lug out of said recess with respect to said first wall, said pin secured against rotation while said lug is received in said recess and said pin rotatable when said lug is moved out of said recess with respect to said first wall;

and a second wall disposed adjacent to and spaced from said first wall.

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 19 remain pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 15 have been amended. Basis for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, claims and drawings as originally filed.

The undersigned attorney would like to thank Examiner Goodman for the courtesies extended to him during the personal interview on September 18, 2001.

During the interview, Claims 1 and 15 were discussed. With respect to Claim 1, the Examiner indicated that he believed that there was sufficient motivation to combine

handsaws with powersaws. With respect to Claim 15, the Examiner conceded that it appears that Claim 15 overcomes the art of record; however, it would be subject to further consideration.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. SECTION 102

The Examiner has rejected Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b) as being anticipated by Vannuvel. Also, the Examiner has rejected Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) as being anticipated by Huang. The Examiner alleges that these two references disclose Applicant's invention.

Claim 1 defines an arrangement for clamping a saw blade to a reciprocating shaft of a power tool. The shaft has two ends. One end is adapted to couple with a motor and the other end includes a retaining member on which a blade for clamping may be mounted. The retaining member is lockable in at least two positions. Each of the at least two positions clamps the blade at a predetermined angle relative to the shaft.

The references, Vannuvel and Huang, relied on by the Examiner fail to disclose or suggest Applicant's invention. The Examiner indicates that in Vannuvel, the retaining member is identified by 7 and 8. In Huang, the Examiner identifies the retaining member as 52 and 53. In both of these references, a threaded fastener is positioned in a hole to retain a saw blade. The threaded fastener, which the Examiner considers the retainer, is utilized in only a single position. The threaded fasteners only receive the saw in this single position and does not lock the saw in at least two positions. The retainer in the Vannuvel reference locks by having two spaced retainers. The Huang reference uses a nob 40 to lock the blade in at least two positions. This is unlike

Applicant's invention which retains a blade in at least two positions by the retaining member. This is illustrated in figure 4 and further explained on page 4, lines 21-27. Thus, both references cited by the Examiner fail to disclose or suggest Applicant's invention.

Accordingly, Applicant believes Claim 1 to be patentably distinct over the art cited by the Examiner. Likewise, the claims which depend from Claim 1 would be patentably distinct over the art cited by the Examiner.

In the event that the Examiner would combine the Vannuvel or Huang reference with the Palm reference, this combination likewise fails to obviate Applicant's invention.

The Palm reference fails to overcome the shortcomings of both the Vannuvel or Huang reference. Thus, Applicant believes that Claim 1 and its dependent claims would be patentably distinct over the combined references.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. SECTION 103

The Examiner has rejected Claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. Section 103 alleging it to be unpatentable over Palm in view of Huang.

As was discussed at the interview, the Examiner indicated that Claim 15 overcame the art of record.

Accordingly, Applicant believes Claim 15 as well as Claims 16-19 which depend from Claim 15 to be patentably distinct over the art cited by the Examiner.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant would submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to pass the case to issue at his earliest possible convenience.


Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the present application, he should not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.

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ATTACHMENT FOR CLAIM AMENDMENTS

The following is a marked up version of each amended claim in which underlines indicates insertions and brackets indicate deletions.

1. (Amended) An arrangement for clamping a saw blade to a reciprocable shaft of a power tool, the shaft having two ends, one end adapted to couple with a motor and the other end including a retaining member on which a blade for clamping may be mounted; the retaining member being lockable in at least two positions, each of the at least two positions clamping the blade at a predetermined angle relative to the shaft.

15. (Twice Amended) A reciprocating saw comprising a housing, a motor contained in said housing and a reciprocating shaft driven by said motor, said shaft including a blade mount, said blade mount further comprising:

a first wall having a recess formed therein;

a pin disposed through said first wall at a location of said recess and having a lug formed on one end thereof, said lug having a shape corresponding to that of said recess, said pin biased with said lug received in said recess with respect to said first wall, said pin movable against said bias to move said lug out of said recess with respect to said first wall, said pin secured against rotation while said lug is received in said recess and said pin rotatable when said lug is moved out of said recess with respect to said first wall;

and a second wall disposed adjacent to and spaced from said first wall.